

Appl. No. 09/773,590
Amdt. Dated May 4, 2005
Reply to Office action of April 11, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P13235-US2
EUS/J/P/05-1116

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method for converting multimedia information comprising the steps of:

requesting multimedia information from a converter;

receiving the multimedia information along with conversion hints;

converting the multimedia information in accordance with the conversion hints[[:]];

wherein the converter is a transcoder and the converter hints are transcoding hints, ~~and wherein the transcoder is informed of a quantization factor to use in order to achieve a desired bit rate or to re-encode at least a portion of the multimedia information at a bit rate that is a percentage of the one in which the information is initially coded; and,~~
providing the multimedia information to the requester.

19. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for converting multimedia information recited in claim 1, ~~comprising the steps of:~~

~~requesting multimedia information from a converter;~~

~~receiving the multimedia information along with conversion hints;~~

wherein said conversion hints comprise image cropping transcoding hints selected from the group consisting of:

information about a desired cropping location and shape;

whether it is preferable to provide a full version of the image with a reduced background quality; and

whether it is preferable to crop the image to only contain a specific region of interest; ~~and~~

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~~converting the multimedia information in accordance with the conversion hints;
providing the multimedia information to the requester.~~

20. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for converting multimedia information recited in claim 1, comprising the steps of:

~~requesting multimedia information from a converter;
receiving the multimedia information along with conversion hints;~~

wherein said conversion hints comprise video transcoding hints including a bandwidth range that represents a range in bandwidth that a video sequence can be transcoded to; and

~~converting the multimedia information in accordance with the conversion hints;
and,
providing the multimedia information to the requester.~~

21. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for converting multimedia information recited in claim 1, comprising the steps of:

~~requesting multimedia information from a converter;
receiving the multimedia information along with conversion hints;~~

wherein said conversion hints comprise video transcoding hints including a computational complexity that indicates the amount of processing power that a conversion algorithm consumes; and

~~converting the multimedia information in accordance with the conversion hints;
and,
providing the multimedia information to the requester.~~

22. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for converting multimedia information recited in claim 1, comprising the steps of:

~~requesting multimedia information from a converter;
receiving the multimedia information along with conversion hints;~~

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wherein said conversion hints comprise video transcoding hints including a quality range that indicates a measurement of how much a peak signal to noise ratio is lowered by performing transcoding; and
~~converting the multimedia information in accordance with the conversion hints;~~
and,
~~providing the multimedia information to the requester.~~

23. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for converting multimedia information recited in claim 1, comprising the steps of:

~~requesting multimedia information from a converter;~~
~~receiving the multimedia information along with conversion hints;~~

wherein said conversion hints comprise video transcoding hints including motion vector predictors starting and ending frames for motion vector refinements; and
~~converting the multimedia information in accordance with the conversion hints;~~
and,
~~providing the multimedia information to the requester.~~

24. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for converting multimedia information recited in claim 1, comprising the steps of:

~~requesting multimedia information from a converter;~~
~~receiving the multimedia information along with conversion hints;~~

wherein said conversion hints comprise video transcoding hints relating to frame rate reduction, including identification of key frames to be excluded from being dropped; and
~~converting the multimedia information in accordance with the conversion hints;~~
and,
~~providing the multimedia information to the requester.~~

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25. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for converting multimedia information recited in claim 1, comprising the steps of:
requesting multimedia information from a converter;
receiving the multimedia information along with conversion hints;
wherein said conversion hints comprise a video mixing transcoding hint associated with a portion of the video in which additional information can be displayed; and
converting the multimedia information in accordance with the conversion hints;
and,
providing the multimedia information to the requester.

26. (New) The method for converting multimedia information recited in claim 1, wherein the transcoder is informed of a quantization factor to use in order to achieve a desired bit rate or to re-encode at least a portion of the multimedia information at a bit rate that is a percentage of the one in which the information is initially coded.
